

bert Ainslie, was the stated hour of family worship. His honored minister took the book. A chapter was read—a prayer was said—and so, too, was sung a psalm, but it was sung in a low, and with suppressed voice, lest the child's sleeping might be broken; and now and then the female voices, trembling and low, of them ceased altogether; for there had been tribulation and anguish, and now hope and faith were tried in the joy of thanksgiving.

The child still slept; and its sleep seemed more sound and deep. It appeared almost certain that the crisis was over, and that the flower was not to fade. "Children," said Gilbert, "our happiness is in the love we bear to each other; and our duty is in submitting to and serving God. Gracious indeed has he been unto us. Is not the recovery of our little darling, dancing, singing Margaret, worth all the gold that ever was mined? If we had had thousands, would we not have filled up her grave with the worthless dust of gold, rather than that she should have gone down there with her sweet face and all her rosy smiles? There was no reply; but a joyful sobbing all over the room.

"Never mind the letter, nor the debt, father," said the oldest daughter, "We have all some little things of our own—a few pounds—and we shall raise enough to keep her in prison at a distance. Or if they do take our furniture out of the house, all except Margaret's bed and chairs? We will sleep on the floor; and there are potatoes in the field, and clear water in the spring. We need fear nothing, want nothing; blessed be God for all his mercies."

Gilbert went into the sick room, got the letter from his wife, who was sitting at the head of the bed, watching, with a heart blessed beyond all bliss, the calm and regular breathings of her child. "This letter," said he loudly, "is not from a hard creditor. Come with me while I read it aloud to our children." The letter was read aloud, and it was well fitted to diffuse pleasure and satisfaction through the dwelling of poverty. It was from an executor to the will of a distant relative, who had left Gilbert Ainslie fifteen hundred pounds. "The sum," said Gilbert, "is a large one to folks like us, but not, I hope, large enough to turn our heads or make us think ourselves all lords and ladies. It will do more, far more, than put me fairly above the world at last. I believe that with it, I may buy this very farm on which my forefathers have toiled. But, God, whose Providence has sent this temporal blessing, may he send wisdom and prudence how to use it, and humble and grateful hearts to us all."

"You will be able to send me to school all the year round now, father," said the youngest boy. "And you may leave the flail to your sons now, father," said the oldest. "You may hold the plough still, for you draw a straighter furrow than any of us; but hard work for young sinews; and you may sit now often in your arm chair by the ingle. You will not need to rise now in the dark, cold and snowy winter mornings, and keep thrashing corn in the barn for hours by candle light, before the late dawning."

There was silence, gladness, and sorrow, and but little sleep in Moss side, between the rising and setting of the stars, that were now out in thousands, clear, bright, and sparkling over the unclouded sky. Those who had lain down for an hour or two in bed, could scarcely be said to have slept; and when about morning, little Margaret awoke, an altered creature, pale, languid, and unable to turn herself on her lowly bed, but with meaning in her eyes, memory in her heart, and coolness in all her veins, a happy group were watching the first faint smile that broke over her features; and never did one who stood there forget that Sabbath morning, on which she seemed to look around upon them all with a gaze of fair and sweet bewilderment, like one half-conscious of having been rescued from the power of the grave.

Congressional.

Correspondence of the Atlas.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 7th, 1841.

The proceedings of either House present nothing of much consequence today. A large portion of the time of each was occupied by the readings of the Message of the President, which you will have received long before you do this.

The Message was delivered to the House punctually at twelve o'clock, and read by the Clerk. Its reading occupied nearly an hour and a half. After it had been read, Mr. Wise moved that ten thousand copies, with the accompanying documents be printed.

Mr. Johnson then moved the previous question, upon his motion of yesterday, in reference to the temporary adoption of the rules of the last Congress, including the 21st, and after a little delay, occasioned by a dispute relative to points of order, but utterly uninteresting, the resolution was adopted, when the House adjourned.

In the Senate, Mr. Bayard, from the Committee appointed in conjunction with that of the House to wait on the President, with the information that he two Houses of Congress were organized, &c. &c. reported that the President would send in a Message in writing.

Immediately upon his taking his seat, Mr. Robert Tyler, the son of the President, appeared at the door of the Senate chamber, and announced that he had been directed to deliver the Message—which was accordingly read by the Secretary of the Senate.

Mr. Smith, of Indiana, moved that the usual number of the President's Message be printed. It was found by recurring to the journal, that this was fifteen hundred, with the accompanying documents, and three thousand without.

Mr. Benton then rose to give the Senate the benefit of his views upon that portion of the President's Message, which related to a fiscal agent. He "utterly objected" to the recommendation of the President, as "utterly unconstitutional, and highly dangerous." "I cannot pretend, in my brief limits, to do justice to the grandiloquent remarks of the great humbugger. To be sure, they did not amount to a great deal—being principally made up of repetition upon repetition of the same few ideas. It is however, of some little importance, at least Mr. Benton would have us believe he thinks so, to declare as he did, over and over again, his opposition to the views and proposition of the President.

Washington, Dec. 8th, 1841.

It has never been the lot of a reporter of the proceedings of Congress to furnish the doings of a more uninteresting day than today. The Senate met to hear the journal read, and adopt a resolution to elect two chaplains—and then adjourned, after a session of less than ten minutes.

The House was longer in session, but did as little. It only adjusted a dispute between two members, both claiming the same seat. It was the one occupied by Mr. Sergeant, and given up by him to Mr. Caruthers, of Tennessee. This was before the resignation of Mr. Sergeant. Dawson of Louisiana, a Locofoco squatter, meanwhile had taken possession of the seat, with no shadow of a right, and

refused to give it up. Mr. Caruthers appealed to the House, who ejected the unlawful possessor by a vote of 122 to 57—This important controversy was thus adjusted, at the slight cost to the country of only about two thousand dollars. For the House did nothing else, but soon after adjourned.

Washington, Dec. 9th, 1841.

In the Senate, Mr. Bayard introduced a resolution to the effect, that when the Senate adjourn, it shall adjourn until Monday next, at twelve o'clock, there being no business before it to attend to, and the prospect of none in the absence of the usual committees—which was adopted. Mr. Wright of New York moved, that the 34th rule of the Senate, (by which rule, it will be remembered, committees are elected by ballot, unless otherwise ordered,) be so far suspended that the President of the Senate shall be authorized to appoint the standing committees for the present session. Carried.

The Senate then adjourned until next Monday, at which time the standing committees will be appointed. Thus has ended the first week's session of the Senate.

In the House, Mr. Fillmore introduced a long resolution, by which the several topics of the President's Message should be distributed for consideration among the several committees to be appointed. Mr. Gilmer moved to lay this resolution upon the table, for the purpose of acting upon the special order of the day, the consideration of the report of the committee on rules, made at the close of the last session.

Before any action had been had upon this motion, Mr. Lawrence of Pennsylvania arose, to announce the decease of his colleague, Hon. Henry Black. After a suitable and warm eulogium upon the character of his departed friend and colleague, he moved the usual resolutions, and the House immediately adjourned.

Washington, Dec. 10, 1841.

The Senate has not been in session today, and the House has been doing nothing of much consequence. After the reading of the journal, the special order of the day being the subject of the adoption of the new rules for the regulation of the House, Mr. Cost Johnson moved to lay the subject upon the table. The effect of this motion would be the virtual adoption of the rules of the former Congress, including the odious twenty-first rule, inasmuch as it will require a vote of two thirds of the House to bring the subject up again. This motion, to the surprise of all, was adopted, by the votes of Northern Locofocos—yeas 96; nays 88.

Mr. Fillmore then renewed his motion for the appointment of select committees, to which certain portions of the President's Message should be referred. A point of order was raised, by Clifford, of Maine, to the effect, that such a motion was not in order, the Message being upon the table, and no step having been taken to take it up. The Speaker overruled this objection—and, after a somewhat protracted dispute, his decision was preferred by a large majority. After this had been decided, the House adjourned over until Monday.

One of those select committees, that on the currency, will be one of the most important ones of the session—as it will be entrusted with the Secretary of the Treasury's plan for a fiscal agent. It is in contemplation to select this Committee from among the personal friends of the President, with the view of giving to the plan the fairest possible hearing, by means of the advocacy of its friends. Whether, however, it will be deemed advisable, is somewhat doubtful.

Washington, Dec. 13th.

The Speaker this morning announced the Standing and Select Committees of the House.

The following are some of the most important. Committee on Foreign Affairs.—Messrs John Q. Adams, Cushing, Everett, W. C. Johnson, Grant, Hunter, Rhett and Proffit.

Select Committee on Finance and the Currency.—Messrs Cushing, John P. Kennedy, Gilmer, G. Davis, Wise, Roosevelt, Proffit, McKay, and W. W. Irwin.

Select Committee on the Apportionment of Representatives.—Messrs Everett, Childs, Caruthers, Sumners, Pearce, John T. Stuart, Bidlack, Cross, and Weller.

The Committee on Ways and Means is reorganized as was expected, after the "entanglement" of the last session. The majority is now composed of undoubted Whigs.

The Committee on Foreign Affairs has Mr. J. Q. Adams at its head, instead of Mr. Cushing, who is the second member named on the Committee.—The appointment was perhaps due to Mr. Adams, as an able and experienced diplomatist; and certainly is the most learned man in the world in regard to international affairs.

The Committee on "Finance and Currency" is the President's plan of Finance, is very properly constituted. It consists of five Tyler men, two Whigs and two Locos. Mr. Cushing is the chairman, and is supported by Messrs Wise, Gilmer, Proffit and W. W. Irwin.

The House went into an election of Chaplain.—On the first ballot, the Rev J. N. Maffit was elected. Mr. M. is well known as a very distinguished popular preacher of the Methodist persuasion.

The death of Col Hunter late assistant Door Keeper, an old Revolutionary officer, was announced, and his funeral expenses were ordered to be paid. The office, on motion of Mr. Briggs, was then abolished.

Mr. Underwood offered a resolution for the appointment of four stenographers to the House. A similar proposition is under consideration in the Senate.

Mr. Mangum gave notice of a proposition to reduce the amount and expense of public printing.—He said that the expense was now too great, and that much useless matter was ordered to be printed.

The Senate adjourned without transacting any further business.

The Rev Mr. Justin, a Baptist, was elected Chaplain of the Senate.

Papacy in the U. States.—The Catholics have now in the U. S. 16 dioceses, 1 archbishop, 13 bishops, 3 coadjutors, and 512 churches and chapels, 394 stations, 545 clergymen, 17 ecclesiastical seminaries, 18 colleges, 31 female religious institutions, 49 female academies, 72 charitable institutions, and 8 periodical publications, "devoted to Catholicity."

THE CALEDONIAN.



Here shall the Press the People's rights maintain, Unswayed by influence and unbribed by gain—Here patriot Truth her glorious precepts draw, Pledged to Religion, Liberty, and Law.

ST. JOHNSBURY.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 21, 1841.

PRESIDENT TYLER'S PROPOSED FISCAL AGENCY.

Without exception, so far as we have noticed them, the Whig papers approve of President Tyler's late Message to Congress—all speak favorably, though some with less confidence than others, of that portion touching the Fiscal Agency Project.—The city Press, which well understands the necessities of the commercial community, urges upon Congress to give to it a favorable and friendly consideration, and the adoption of the plan, upon the ground that it will, next to a well constructed National Bank, answer the wants of the business community by furnishing a convenient medium of exchange.

The plan, in its principles, possesses no one feature of the defunct Sub Treasury system. That system contemplated a reduction of the currency to an entire specie circulation—a withdrawal, so far as the Government could effect it, from circulation, of two thirds of the money in the country: the present plan proposes a moderate expansion of the currency by supplying a medium of exchange in the issue of exchequer notes, redeemable with gold and silver.

How the plan strikes the mind of Congress does not yet fully appear. It is to be referred to a committee personally and politically friendly to the President—Caleb Cushing, chairman, probably.—The moderate Whigs, it is said, look upon the measure with favor, and all the more candid of the opposition; while a portion of the western and southern Whigs exhibit feelings towards it of a less friendly character, but stand, most of them, uncommitted against it. Should they come into its support unitedly it will become a law.

Benton has denounced it in his usual slang-whang style, as he would any project that did not go for the reduction of our currency to the hard money systems of the old and degraded nations of the world; and we venture the prediction that nearly all, if not all of his party in Congress, will do the same ere long, and leave the project in the hands of Mr. Tyler's friends. His denouncing it, thus, however, we consider a favorable omen.

It is now conceded almost universally, that the stock of a national Bank would not be taken up.—Bank stock yields generally, now-a-days, too small an income to invite investments; and such an institution would be the object of a virulent and unceasing warfare by Benton and his followers, and perhaps the victim of their phrenzy. Consequently its stock would be unprofitable, if not an entire loss to the holders thereof. Besides, always assailed, it would be much less serviceable to the public.

Thinking thus, the business men of the country are disposed to embrace Mr. Tyler's plan, as one that may be highly useful to the people—affording a safe and convenient medium of exchange, and thereby directly aiding the industry of the country. If it will do this to a reasonable extent, it is then, all that we need.

On the whole, so far as we are acquainted with public opinion, at home and abroad, the plan is well received.

VERMONT STATE DEBT. The locofoco papers appear to be very fond of alluding, always in a deceptive manner, however, to the Vermont State debt, which amounts to about the cost of the new State House, and which was contracted to erect that splendid edifice. The papers aforesaid are very careful not to tell who incurred this debt—they do not say that it was done by William A. Palmer & Co. when the political destiny of the State was in their hands. This would defeat their design—for he is now, as well as most of those who directly co-operated with him in the business, the foremost champion of locofocoism, and folks would then see to whom the debt belonged. It is true, we have been informed, that almost all of the individuals who aided in the contraction of the State debt, residing in this portion of the State, are now of the locofoco party. They are those who have followed in the wake of ex Governor Palmer. Yet the papers aforesaid labor hard to give those who know no better, the impression that the Whigs incurred the debt, which is untrue. Let this be remembered.

ENGLAND'S POOR.—noticed upon our first page—and probably without much exaggeration—deserve the sympathy of all who have a heart to feel for the woes of their race. Her ancient monopolies are a curse to the mass of the people—as they ever have been and always will be—till some mighty revolution breaks up the system and remedies the tenure by which property is held by a few. It is a land monopoly—originating in the manner in which the kingdom was settled by the race whose descendants are the present occupants of the soil—rights and titles having, through many generations passed down from father to son—while the great of the people, not land owners, have been only tenants at will. The land monopolists control the Government—shape and make the laws for themselves, and grind the faces of the poor at pleasure.

How different in our own happy land, where every honest man, can, if he will, be a joint proprietor in our soil, and have an equal voice in making

our laws. The wide difference comes from the manner the two countries were settled and the first principles of international law and social relations were established. Here we are all freemen without monopolies—there the land holders are monopolists, and hold in their hands the destinies of the whole people.

For the Caledonian.

WHAT HAS BEEN DONE?

That was a bright page in the history of humanity when a few hard drinking men in Baltimore threw down their cups, and solemnly pledged themselves to drink no more. It was a proud and glorious day, when that little band rose up from their table, with the stern resolution that they would be free from the slavery of debasing habits. The influence which went forth from the dram shop when that vow was made, has vibrated thro' the land, conveying hope and joy to many a broken heart, raising up many who had long been bowed down under the tyranny of alcohol, sending a smile of comfort to many a desolate hearth, and restoring thousands to the paths of respectability and usefulness who had been considered lost to society.

Take one single instance, as an example of the change that has been wrought in the thousands of cases. That man with a wife and six children will tell you the following tale. His parents were respectable and industrious farmers, and he inherited their good name and steady habits. With an amiable and interesting wife, he early settled in life and engaged in business which promised in time to render him independent if not wealthy.—As he and his companion looked forward on the future, the prospect was fair and encouraging for a life of prosperity, usefulness and happiness. No thorns were discovered in their pathway, and not a cloud to dim the sunshine of life. With the young men of his age he occasionally took his glass, as he met them at the tavern or store, and at distant intervals he would spend an evening with them over the bottle. As the mariner sailing by the great whirlpool on the coast of Norway, will sometimes find his barque veering from its course, and drawn around by the eddying current before he can perceive any agitation in the waters; so he was gradually led on from step to step to indulge more and more in the intoxicating bowl, without perceiving his danger, till at length the circling currents growing stronger and stronger swept him onward with irresistible force. His business was neglected—his time was spent mostly at the tavern and store—his debts accumulated, and his family were but scantily provided with the necessities of life. His wife, whom a few years ago he loved and cherished so tenderly, was treated with neglect and occasional harshness. His children, whom he had gazed upon with a father's pride, and so often looked forward to the time when they would be the support and joy of his declining years, were suffered to grow up in idleness and ignorance and were known by their rags to be the children of a drunkard. His family were driven from their home by his creditors, and for years were they changing from one poor tenement to another, with a miserable pittance of food and clothing, and almost wholly destitute of the ordinary comforts of life; while he who should be their provider, their comforter and the guardian of their happiness, spent the most of his time and the most of his earnings at the grog shop.

But mark the change. That man is now steady and industrious. His wife and children, as well as himself, are decently and comfortably clad, and plentifully supplied with wholesome food. His house is repaired and has assumed the air of neatness and comfort. His family greet his return from his daily toils, with joy, and unite in their endeavors to anticipate his wants and contribute to his happiness. He has again acquired the confidence of his neighbors and acquaintances, and who encourage him with their patronage; and with a heart grateful for the comforts and blessings which are beginning to cluster around his pathway, and the brightening prospects which beam on the future, he presses onward, determined again to be respected and useful in society, and the kind husband and father.

And what is the cause of the change? He has, after the example of the Baltimore reformers, renounced intoxicating drinks in all their forms, from hard cider to brandy. He has broken away from the bondage of bad habits, and he again walks the earth with the step of a free man. His heart is again thrown open to all the kind and generous sympathies, which he cherished when he first entered on the stage of active life, and he is happy, and the source of happiness to others.

Who could hesitate which of these conditions to choose? And yet the choice is within the reach of all. Let no false pride, or want of resolution and decision, prevent any one from coming forward and taking that station in society, and securing that happiness for himself and his family, which it is in his power to obtain. J. P. F.

TENNESSEE.—There is a difficulty in the Tennessee Legislature in electing two members to the U. S. Senate. In the Senate, the parties are 12 to 13. After many attempts, a joint resolution was passed that a convention of the two branches, be held on the 2d inst. for that purpose. But on that day, the Opposition party in the Senate refused to act, and it was said that there was not a quorum of Senators present in the convention, and great confusion prevailed until the convention adjourned. The same proceedings took place on the following day, with no definite result—the minority being determined to prevent the action of the majority!—And what will ultimately be the consequence, it is difficult to predict.

The measures of the locofocos are outrageous, and disgraceful, and would forever curse any body of men but the corrupt and profligate leaders of the locofoco party—Polk, Van Buren, Benton, and Kendall.

A NEW PAPER. Philip Battell, a gentleman of literary attainments, proposes to publish a Literary Paper once a week at Middlebury, this State, to be called "The Topaz," commencing the first of January next. He has our wishes for his success. Price, three dollars in advance.

THE MESSAGE.—A PROTECTIVE TARIFF. Mr. Editor,—I notice that the Washington Globe, the N. Y. Evening Post, the Journal of Commerce and other leading opposition papers take strong grounds against that part of the President's Message which recommends a discriminating Tariff; and it is now pretty well understood, that the opposition in Congress will go against any bill which provides for a discriminating duty or any duty on imported goods with reference to the protection of our own Manufactures.

The arguments used, are that a protective duty on importations is an unjust tax on the consumer for the benefit only of the wealthy manufacturer.—That free trade is a right guaranteed to the American people, and any infringement on this right operates prejudicial, especially to the laboring classes, who constitute the greatest proportion of the consumers of goods—that to protect American manufactures by the assessment of duties on foreign goods is equivalent to legislation for the purpose of building up extensive and odious monopolies in the character of overgrown corporations.—These arguments are plausible and well calculated to enlist opposition to any measure for reviving the prostrated energies of the country by encouraging home manufactures. I propose, sir, to examine these arguments, being convinced that the question of a discriminating Tariff is one of vital importance to the American people, and to no portion of the Union is it of more importance than to the people of Vermont. It is a question, too, on which the two great political parties in the Eastern, Middle and Western States are at issue—the Whigs in favor and the opposition against the measure.

Under the present tariff various kinds of goods, extensively consumed, can be imported and sold in our markets, at rates below the cost of manufacturing them here; and under the provisions of the compromise act, which take effect after the 30th of June next, still greater advantages will be gained by the importer over the domestic manufacturer. And as the consumer will purchase the best bargain the amount expended for foreign goods in proportion to that paid for home productions will be constantly augmented.

It is obvious however, that unless those foreign states from whence these goods are obtained, offer in return a market for our productions, the operation must prove a constant drain upon the country for cash.

The greatest amount of imported manufactured goods by far, is from Great Britain. She offers facilities for credit, and by means of her pauper labor produces fabrics at the cheapest rates, and hence the immense consumption of her goods by the American people.

But the markets of Great Britain are closed against American products of almost every description, except cotton, by the imposition of high duties, and hence the periodical shipment of specie from our ports to England—the balance of trade being constantly in her favor.

The operation is natural but disastrous, and the more so from the fact that it is identified with the fluctuations connected with the corn laws of England. The agents of British Manufacturing houses resident in our cities encourage large orders in goods by offering liberal credits to mercantile houses, until millions and tens of millions of debts accumulate beyond the amount of current sales of cotton there. A partial failure of the grain crop in England is the signal for the Bank of England to withhold her accommodations, and the distress pressing call of British creditors upon their American debtors. A run upon our city banks is the consequence, and the shipment of large amounts of specie. It is needless to trace the further effects of this operation upon the business and interests of the American people. It is obvious to the common sense of every one.

The city banks, drained of their specie withhold accommodations to their customers, and the country banks necessarily do the same. A process succeeds, which cramps every department of business. The packers of Beef and Pork buy sparingly and offer only the lowest prices for those great staples of the New England farmers, and every species of property and labor is made to feel the withering curse of the boasted system of free trade. I propose to take a future opportunity of showing further how injuriously this system affects the laboring classes. AN AMERICAN.

ANOTHER OUTRAGE ON THE AMERICAN FLAG. Captain Padrick, of the schooner William, arrived at New York, 44 days from the coast of Africa, reports that while lying at Gallinas the William was boarded from the British man-of-war, the Dolphin. While the boarding officer was in the cabin (probably examining the schooner's papers) the crew of the boat took the liberty of breaking open the hatches and overhauling the cargo, making use of insulting language, meantime, to the officers and crew of the schooner.

Captain Padrick does not say whether any apology or reparation was made or offered by the boarding officer, or by the commander of the Dolphin.

Great Britain, under the pretence of checking the slave trade on the African coast, has for some time like a year past, permitted her cruises to board merchant vessels and search them without much ceremony. The apology for so doing is that the vessels of other nations, actually engaged in the slave trade, sail under the American flag.

Our Government has called the attention of the British Government to this subject without gaining much satisfaction, and President Tyler in his message refers to it in a proper manner.

It is now pretty generally considered, that England acts hypocritically in her pretended sympathy for the Africans, for it has been proved that what conclusively that Slavers supply themselves with goods to use in the slave trade from a British deposit on the coast or an adjacent island, and that the real object is to drive off other nations from the lawful trade and monopolize it herself. To effect this, it is supposed that her armed vessels act under secret instructions.

Installation. Rev. Mr. Gridley was installed Pastor of the first Congregational Church in Middlebury on Wednesday last.